

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 CU-02 /075 W
-----057828 231915Z /50

R 231114Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8757
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2055

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: HU, RO, PGOV, PINT
SUBJECT: KADAR-CEAUSESCU MEETING

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 4560; (B) BUDAPEST 1998

1. SUMMARY. AS REF A POINTS OUT, ROMANIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HUNGARIAN MINORITY ISSUE IN COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING JUNE 15-16 KADAR-CEAUSESCU MEETING IS UNPRECEDENTED. FROM GOH POINT OF VIEW, THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ALONG WITH LONG SOUGHT PERMISSION FOR HUNGARY TO OPEN CONSULATE IN CLUJ CONSTITUTES MAJOR ADVANCE IN HUNGARIAN-ROMANIAN RELATIONS, AND CLOSE TO MAXIMUM GOH MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE AT THIS MEETING. EMBASSY OFFERS ADDITIONAL COMMENT BELOW TO SUPPLEMENT EARLIER REPORTS REFTEL B. END SUMMARY.

2. IT SIGNIFICANT THAT HUNGARIANS THEMSELVES HAVE PUBLICLY
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EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH NEW DEVELOPMENTS. KADAR IN HIS TOAST AT DEBRECEN FOR EXAMPLE: "WE HAVE GAINED IMPRESSION IN COURSE OF OUR TALKS THAT BOTH SIDES ARE READY TO PAY SUITABLE ATTENTION TO QUESTIONS IN OUR RELATIONS THAT REQUIRE A SETTLEMENT IN SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONALISM." IN ADDITION, HSWP PAPER NEPSZABADSAG ON JUNE 18 CHARACTERIZED KADAR-

CEAUSESCU "NEGOTIATIONS" AS AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN HUNGARINA-ROMANIAN RELATIONS WHICH WILL GIVE A NEW STIMULUS TO MULTIFACETED COOPERATION AND SERVE FRUITFULLY ENTIRE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY.

3. IT IS A LENIST PRINCIPLE THAT NATIONALITIES MAY SERVE AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN NATIONS. AS NEPSZABADSAG JUNE 18 STATES: PROPERLY APPLIED, LENINIST NATIONALIST POLICY CAN EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOALS OF BUILDING SOCIALISM IN HUNGARY AND ROMANIA. THUS, REFERENCE TO A "MARXIST-LENINIST SOLUTION OF NATIONALITY QUESTION" CONTAINED IN COMMUNIQUE IS UNDOUBTEDLY SEEN BY GOH AS A FURTHER ASSURANCE OF CORRECT AND IMPROVED TREATMENT OF HUNGARIAN MINORITY IN ROMANIA. SIMILARLY, REFERENCE TO "INTERNATIONAL NORMS ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION CONCERNING THE ENFORCEMENT AND PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES" IS ALSO SATISFYING TO GOH. DESPITE THEIR GENERAL SATISFACTION, HOWEVER, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT HUNGARIANS WILL BE WATCHING CAREFULLY TO SEE WHAT PRACTICAL STEPS GOR TAKES TO IMPROVE LOT OF HUNGARIANS IN ROMANIA.

4. CEAUSESCU IN HIS TOAST IN DEBRECEN AFFIRMED RIGHT TO EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR HUNGARIAN MINORITY AS WELL AS PRINCIPLE THAT ALL ROMANIANS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO SCIENCE AND CULTURE IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE. SHORTCOMINGS IN THESE AREAS HAVE UNTIL NOW BEEN TWO
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MAJOR HUNGARIAN COMPLAINTS.

5. WITH REGARD TO NEW AGREEMENT ON BORDER TRAFFIC NEPSZABADSAG INDICATES THAT BORDER ZONE HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM 15 TO 20 KILOMETERS IN WIDTH AND THAT NUMBER OF VISITS PERMITTED ACROSS BORDER BY MEMBERS LIVING IN THAT ZONE WILL HENCEFORTH BE INCREASED FROM 4 TO 12 ANNUALLY.

6. INTERESTING SIDLIGHT COOROBORATING EMBASSY BUCHAREST'S CONCLUSION THAT IT MAY STILL BE DIFFICULT TO BUILD BRIDGE OF TOGETHERNESS BETWEEN HUNGARY AND ROMANIA IS THAT IN ALL REPORTS PUBLISHED IN HUNGARY CONCERNING KADAR-CEAUSESCU MEETINGS INCLUDING CEAUSESCU'S TOAST, PLACE NAMES IN TRANSYLVANIA ARE ACCORDED HUNGARIAN APPELLATION: NAGYVARAD FOR ORADEA; KOLOZSVAR FOR CLUJ: ETC.

7. THAT GOH HAS A LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO BE INTERESTED IN WELFARE OF HUNGARIAN MINORITY IN ROMANIA NOW SEEMS FIRMLY ESTABLISHED FOR FIRST TIME UNDER SOCIALIST REGIMES. WE AGREE WITH BUCHAREST THIS SHOULD CLEAR WAY FOR CEAUSESCU VISIT TO BUDAPEST.

8. FROM OUR PERCH WE ARE SOMEWHAT AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN
ROMANIA'S ACCEPTANCE OF LANGUAGE IN COMMUNIQUE ON MINORITIES
SINCE THEY HAVE RESISTED HUNGARIAN EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SUCH
LANGUAGE IN PAST. PERHAPS EXPLANATION LIES OUTSIDE FRAME-
WORK OF HUNGARIAN-ROMANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH
MINORITY ISSUE IS FAR FROM RESOLVED, KADAR HAS EARNED
KUDOS OF INCREASINGLY NATIONALISTIC MAGYARS BY BRINGING
ISSUE OUT IN OPEN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUDAPE02055
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770225-0182
Format: TEL
From: BUDAPEST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770624/aaaaaven.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f4f1ce77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUCHAREST 4560, 77 BUDAPEST 1998
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2051556
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KADAR-CEAUSESCU MEETING
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, HU, RO, (NICOLAE, CEAUSESCU), (KADAR, JANOS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f4f1ce77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009